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THE AMBROSE FAMILY RECORDS

Edited by
WILLIAM MONTGOMERY CLEMENS

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AMBROSE OF ENGLAND.

THE name of Ambrose came down from the early days of Christianity, the first known Ambrose being the Deacon of Alexandria, the patron of Origen, by whose eloquence he was converted to Christianity. He died, in the year 250, in Alexandria. His letters mentioned by Saint Jerome were lost.

Saint Ambrose, the Archbishop of Milan, died 4 April, 397, at the age of fifty seven. He was noted for his zeal in the cause of Christianity. He is said to have composed the sacred hymn "Te deum."

IN ENGLAND the Ambrose family of Ambrose Hall, were residents of Lowick and Woodplumpton, in County Lancashire. The only printed record of the family is a contribution of a few pages in Local Gleanings, published in Manchester, and written by Lieut.-Colonel Fishwick, in 1879. The most celebrated of the ancient Lancashire family was Isaac Ambrose, who graduated from Oxford, in 1621. He became a preacher in Garstang and Preston. He died of apoplexy in his seventy-second year. From an old volume of literary criticism, we find these words of praise for Isaac:

"Few works have been more popular with all ranks of people than those of honest Isaac Ambrose, the nonconformist. His thoughts had every year what he called a musing time. It was his regular custom to retire for a month every summer to a little hut in a wood, where he shunned all society, and gave himself up entirely to contemplation. When death came to put an end to his labours, he had so strong a presentiment of its approach, that he went round to all his friends, at their own houses, to bid them farewell; and, after sending his last finished composition, 'A Discourse concerning Angels,' to the press, he shut himself up in his parlour to die, and there he was next day found expiring."

AMBROSE IN AMERICA.

HENRY AMBROSE (1), a younger brother of Isaac, the nonconformist, was the first of the name to come to America. He was born in Lancashire, in 1613, and arrived in Massachusetts about the year 1632. Becoming a settler in Salisbury, he married in 1639, a lady known to history only as Susananh. He died in Boston, in 1658, leaving two children.

1. Henry (2), born in 1651.
2. Abigail, born 28 December, 1654.

His widow Susannah Ambrose, married as his second wife, John Severance, who came to Ipswich, in 1634, and was one of the founders of Salisbury. His first wife, Abigail, died in 1658, and he died in 1682, leaving Susannah, a widow for the second time.

HENRY AMBROSE (2), married in October, 1672, the widow Hannah Worcester, said to have been the relict of Rev. William Worcester, who became the first minister of Salisbury, in 1638.

The children of Henry (2) Ambrose and Hannah Worcester were:

1. Dorothy, born in Salisbury, 21 September, 1673, who married Samuel Colby.
2. Nathaniel, born 14 December, 1677, who married Sarah Eastman.
3. William, born in 1679, who married, 6 January, 1697, Elizabeth Matlock.

NATHANIEL AMBROSE (Henry2, Henry1), born in 1677, married at the age of nineteen, Sarah Eastman, a daughter of Roger Eastman, of Salisbury. We have a record of the birth of two children, Elizabeth, born 14 December, 1698, and John, born 28 September, 1707. The wife of John was called Elizabeth, but her last name and the date of their marriage has not been ascertained.

There has always been a doubt as to who Elizabeth married. A Salisbury church record gives the marriage of Elizabeth Ambrose to Sampson Underhill, 15 January, 1717. Another record states that Elizabeth Ambrose married Benjamin Boden, 2 October, 1721.

From all accounts John Ambrose and his wife Elizabeth had but one child, a son Robert, who lived in Salisbury, until he reached manhood, when he removed to East Concord, where he married Mary Their children as far as known were:

1. Nathaniel, married 29 February, 1776, Phoebe Lovejoy.
2. Anna, married 28 September, 1783, Dr. Caleb Morse.



3. Nabby, married 26 November, 1789, John Lovejoy.

NATHONIEL (2) (Robert, John, Nathaniel 1, Henry 2, Henry 1.), married 1st, 29 February, 1776, Phoebe Lovejoy, born 1755, daughter of David Lovejoy, and grand daughter of William Lovejoy and Hannah Evans. She died in 1798. Their children were:

1. Jonathan, born 13 February, 1777, and died at the close of the same year.

2. Phoebe, born 22 September, 1779, married John Edmunds, of Chichester, 12 February, 1804.

3. Martha (Patty) born 7 November, 1781, married in Pembroke, 3 March, 1801, William True Smith (1772-1859), son of Colonel William Smith (1747-1816), of Deerfield.

4. Abigail, born 18 April, 1784, married Mark Baker, of Bow, New Hampshire.

5. David, born 30 September, 1786, married Sukey Adams, 2 September, 1809.

6. Jonathan, 2nd, born 18 September, 1789.

7. Jennie, born 4 February, 1793.

Nathaniel Ambrose, married 2nd, 10 March, 1814, Irena Brown, born 1762, died 1838. Nathaniel died in Deerfield, in 1835.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE FAMILY

BETWEEN 1700 and 1750, other members of the Ambrose family arrived from England, and among them Robert, Benjamin and Stephen. They settled mostly in New Hampshire, in Moultenborough and its immediate vicinity. While we have no perfected genealogical tree of the Moultonborough branch, the record of marriages performed by Rev. Jeremiah Shaw, included the following:

Samuel Ambrose and Nancy Lee, 2 November, 1794.

Nathaniel Ambrose and Hannah Stone, 3 August, 1795.

Abigail Ambrose and Thomas Persons, 30 April, 1799.

Greenleaf Ambrose and Rachel Towle. 9 February, 1800.

Betsey Ambrose and Nathaniel Hubbard, 13 June, 1802.

John Ambrose and Mary Hubbard, 17 February, 1806.

Mary Ambrose (widow) and Parker Plummer, 17 November, 1811.

Abigail Ambrose and Warner Adams, 15 April, 1815.

Betsey Ambrose and John T. Purrington, 22 January, 1821.

Hannah Ambrose and Jonathan Clough, 22 May, 1823.

Other New Hampshire marriages of record were:

Phoebe Ambrose and John Edmunds, at Pembroke, 12 February, 1824.

Mary Ambrose and Phillip Eastman, 1827, at Concord.

Greenleaf Ambrose and Sally R. Sawyer, 1843, at Londonderry.

Betsy Ann Ambrose and Horace E. Stevens, 17 February, 1869, at Londonderry.

Stephen Chase of Northfield, married in 1794, Abigail Gilman Ambrose, born 1763, died November 1833, a daughter of Thomas Gilman, and widow of Benjamin Ambrose.

Colonel Robert Ambrose, of Concord, born in 1797, the eldest son of Stephen Ambrose, was thrown from a vehicle and killed in 1831, at the age of thirty-four. He had served two terms as representative of his town in the State Legislature.

AMBROSE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

David AMBROSE died in Chowan County, North Carolina, in 1745, his will being dated 14 July of that year. He names his wife Susannah, and the following children:

son David.

son William.

son Jesse.

son Israel.

daughter Mary.

daughter Susannah.

daughter Morning.

The will was witnessed by David Bush, James Craven and Jacob Privett.

The daughter, Susannah Ambrose, was married, 6 August, 1752, in Chowan County, to Lewis Jones. William, one of the sons of David, was a witness to the will of Nathan Morgan, 2 October, 1750.

AMBROSE IN OTHER STATES

IN VIRGINIA, the Ambrose family of Westmoreland County, is the best known. Elijah Ambrose married Catherine Olliffe, 18 March, 1818, and his sister, Nancy Ambrose, married Joseph Selby, 1 January, 1807. Benjamin Mason Ambrose, of Winchester, Virginia, married Mannie L. Baker. Their son Mason Ambrose was born 27 August, 1876.

In Pennsylvania, as early as 1795, on 30 June, Agnes Ambrose married James Crooks, in Cumberland County. Rev. John C. Ambrose was born in Cowansville, Penn., in 1862. He was ordained in June, 1887.

In Maryland, Mary Ambrose married John Merritt in 1808, in Cecil County.

In Illinois, Rev. David Edward Ambrose was born in Mount Pulaski, graduated in 1882, and ordained in 1890, after which he removed to Sterling, Kansas.

In Indiana, Amanda Ambrose was married, 22 August, 1859, at Peru, to Richard M. Thompson.

In Ohio, Rev. Matthias H. Ambrose was born at Hillboro, graduated in 1872, studied Hebrew with President Harper in Chicago, and later was pastor of the Presbyterian Church, at Palestine, Illinois.

In Rhode Island, Isabella Ambrose was married 26 December, 1822, to Holder Lake, at Newport.

In Maine, Margaret Ambrose was married 20 November, 1880, to Francis O'Neill, at Gardiner.

In Bartlesville, Oklahoma, resides Arthur Warren Ambrose, born at Lockeford, California, 20 April, 1889. He is the son of Warren Bryant Ambrose and Alice Stephens.

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